**Argument Essay 3:** The United States Constitution

***The United States Constitution*** *is a document containing the basic rules and instructions for the federal government. Some people see the United States Constitution as a way to increase federal power over the states. Other people view the Constitution as a document that protects the individual liberties of American citizens. You are going to decide which side you agree with.*

**Step 1:** Pick a side

Decide what the purpose of the Constitution is, and circle your choice below.

 Control Justice

**Step 2:** Write an Introduction

Write 2-5 sentences on the lines below. You must:

* Describe the United States Constitution*(what is it, what information and ideas does it include)*
* Explain the purpose of the United States Constitution *(“The Constitution was written to protect people’s rights,” or “The Constitution was written to given the federal government more control over the country.”)*

First Paragraph (Introduction):

**Step 3:** Pick Three

Choose three examples that prove the Constitution is more about either **control** or **justice**. Use historical events (i.e. Shays’ Rebellion), influences (i.e. Montesquieu) or specific parts of the Constitution (i.e. The First Amendment).

First Paragraph:

Second Paragraph:

Third Paragraph:

**Step 4:** Write three paragraphs

For each example in Step 3, write a paragraph. Each paragraph should describe the example and how it proves that the Constitution is more about **control** or **justice**.

1.

1.

1.

*Congratulations! If this is complete and you have followed instructions, you have earned 110 out of 150 points (C-). To earn more than a C-, you must do the following:*

1. *Turn this handout in at least 2 days early*
2. *When Mr. Brock returns it to you with notes, make the corrections and rewrite the essay on a separate sheet of paper*